

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00817 111336Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ACDA-12 /089 W
-----028556 111932Z /61

R 111225Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5568
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CONSIXTHFLT
FOSIF ROTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0817

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, LY
SUBJECT: QADHAFI INAUGURATES NEW AIR BASE

1. COLONEL QADHAFI, IN HIS CAPACITY AS SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES, OPENED WHAT WAS DESCRIBED AS A NEW AIR BASE JUNE 9 AS PART OF THE NATIONAL FESTIVITIES CELEBRATING 1970 AMERICAN EVACUATION OF WHEELUS AIR BASE. LOCATION OF NEW AIR BASE WAS GIVEN AS AL-QIRDABIYAH IN THE "MIDDLE REGION," BUT IT IS ACTUALLY BELIEVED TO BE LOCATED SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF SIRTE.

2. QADHAFI DID NOT SPEAK AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMANDER ABU BAKR YUNIS JABIR AND GENERAL SECRETARIAT MEMBER LTC MUSTAFA
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AL-KHARUBI. FOLLOWING WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE AIR FORCE CHIEF-OF-STAFF, RADIO TRIPOLI REPORTED THAT QADHAFI PROCEEDED TO THE REVIEWING STAND TO WATCH A LARGE AIR SHOW. COMMENTATOR ASSERTED THAT THIS NEW BASE WAS CONSIDERED AS A RESPONSE TO "IMPERIALISM" AND WAS MEANT TO REAFFIRM THAT LIBYA WAS ABLE TO PROTECT HER SKIES AGAINST EVERY AGGRESSOR.

3. COMMENT. OPENING OF THIS BASE CAME AS A SURPRISE
EVENT WHICH DIPLOMATS WERE NOT INVITED TO ATTEND. FORTY-
FIVE MINUTES OF LIVE RADIO COVERAGE JUNE 9 FOLLOWED
NUMEROUS SPECIAL BULLETINS INVITING LISTENERS TO STAY
TUNED FOR "SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS" IN COMMEMORATION OF
AMERICAN "EVACUATION" DAY. EVENT WAS FEATURED IN THE
JUNE 10 NEWSPAPER, BUT NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN ON THE AIR
BASE ITSELF. ABSENCE OF PHOTOGRAPHS OR TELEVISION
COVERAGE RAISES QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THIS
BASE HAS REACHED OPERATIONAL STATUS.
CARLE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPENING OF OFFICES, MILITARY BASES, AIR FORCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TRIPOL00817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780244-0678
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780672/aaaacjvp.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 32a0bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2401404
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QADHAFI INAUGURATES NEW AIR BASE
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, LY, (QADHAFI, MU'AMMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/32a0bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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